

Message Text

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ACTION SCCT-02

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 EUR-25 EA-11 IO-14 ISO-00 SY-04 NIC-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 CAB-09 FAA-00

DOTE-00 SCA-01 DRC-01 /160 W
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R 201235Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3054

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L ASUNCION 2993

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, PFOR, YO, SP, SW, PA

SUBJECT: CROATIAN TERRORISTS

REF: (A) STOCKHOLM 2751 (F) STATE 146902
(B) STATE 141743 (G) STOCKHOLM W QRP
(C) STATE 142811 (H) STOCKHOLM 3146
(D) ASUNCION 2771 (I) ASUNCION 2812
(E) STATE 144230

1. SWEDISH AMBASSADOR TORE CARL-HENRIK HOGSTEDT (RESIDENT IN MONTEVIDEO AND NOT REPEAT NOT IN BUENOS AIRES PERIJETEL (H) CALLED ON THE AMBASSADOR JULY 19 TO DISCUSS HIS EFFORTS BEFORE THE GOP REGARDING THE SIX CROATIAN TERRORISTS PRESENTLY IN PARAGUAY. AMBASSADOR HOGSTEDT SAID THAT DURING HIS CONVERSATIONS WITH FOREIGN MINISTER RAUL SAPENA PASTOR JULY 19 HE MADE NO OFFICIAL REQUEST
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FOR EXTRADITION BUT RATHER DISCUSSED THE SITUATION IN

GENERAL. AS A RESULT OF HIS DISCUSSIONS HE SAID HE HAD CONCLUDED THAT THE GOP HAD BEEN AN INNOCENT DUPE OF THE BLUNDERS OF ITS AMBASSADOR TO MADRID AND THAT IT WAS EXTREMELY EMBARRASSED AT THE DISCOVERY THAT IT HAD OFFERED SAFE HAVEN TO TERRORISTS WHO HAD BEEN INVOLVED IN MURDER. AMBASSADOR HOGSTEDT SAID SAPENA PASTOR HAD RECEIVED HIM CORDIALLY BUT WARNED HIM THAT EXTRADITION OF THE CROATIANS WOULD INVOLVE A LONG LEGAL PROCESS OF ONE TO TWO YEARS. ALTHOUGH HE SAID HE BELIEVED THAT IN THE END THE GOP WOULD ACCEDE TO AN EXTRADITION REQUEST, THE SWEDISH AMBASSADOR REFERRED REPEATEDLY TO THE EXPENSE IN TIME AND MONEY OF THE PROCESS. HE SHOWED LITTLE ENTHUSIASM FOR PRESSING THE MATTER. HE SAID HE WOULD CONSULT WITH HIS GOVERNMENT FOR INSTRUCTIONS.

2. AMBASSADOR HOGSTEDT INDICATED A CERTAIN ADMIRATION FOR THE AGILITY OF THE SPANIARDS IN TRANSFERRING THEIR UNWELCOME CROATIAN GUESTS TO PARAGUAY. HE NOTED THAT THE GOP HAD THUS FAR REFUSED TO RETURN THE SPANISH PASSPORTS USED BY THE CROATIANS IN SPITE OF EFFORTS BY SPANISH EMBASSY HERE TO SECURE THEIR SURRENDER FROM THE GOP (PARA 2 REFTEL (I)).

3. COMMENT: THROUGHOUT THE CONVERSATION AMBASSADOR HOGSTEDT TOOK AN APPARENTLY REALISTIC VIEW OF THE SITUATION INDICATING THAT HE, AT LEAST PERSONALLY, WOULD NOT BE DISMAYED IF THE CROATIANS WERE ALLOWED TO REMAIN IN PARAGUAY ON CONDITION OF "RUSTICATION" WHERE THEY COULD DO NBAWARMTSPT THE REMOTE INTERIOR OF THE COUNTRY.
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